

REMARKS

Claims 3-5 and 8-40 have been canceled without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to file an application which claims priority to the instant application and contains the subject matter of the cancelled claims.

Support for the recitation of “a haplotype” in claims 1 and 6 can be found throughout the specification, for example, on page 7, lines 2-24, and page 8, lines 17-20. Support for individuals who are an offspring of a parent having bipolar disorder (in claims 1 and 6) can be found throughout the specification, for example, on pages 7-8 and in Figure 2. No new matter has been added.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following remarks. Issues raised by the Examiner will be addressed below in the order they appear in the prior Office Action.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 1-3, 6-8, 10-12, and 28-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for lack of enablement. Claims 3, 8, 10-12 and 28-40 have been canceled. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection to the extent it is maintained over the claims as amended.

Specifically, the Examiner acknowledges that the specification is “enabling for methods for determining whether an individual has an increased likelihood of having or developing bipolar disorder wherein the method comprises performing an inheritance study wherein an individual that is the offspring of a parent having bipolar disorder is analyzed for the inheritance of a haplotype consisting of an A at nucleotide position 476, a G at nucleotide position 942 and a C at nucleotide position 1635 of the dopamine beta-hydroxylase gene (DBH).” See Office Action, page 2.

Applicants reiterate the arguments already of record and believe that the previously pending claims satisfy the enablement requirement. Nevertheless, solely to expedite prosecution of the application, Applicants have canceled Claims 3, 8, 10-12, and 28-40 without prejudice.

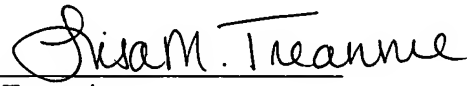
The remaining independent claims (Claims 1 and 6) have been amended to recite “a haplotype consisting of” specified nucleotides at particular nucleotide positions in the dopamine beta-hydroxylase gene. Applicants have also amended these claims to specify that the individual is an offspring of a parent having bipolar disorder. These claims are consistent with the subject matter which the Examiner has indicated is enabled by the Specification. Accordingly, with amendments made herein and as discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that the invention as claimed is fully enabled. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully solicited. The Examiner may address any questions raised by this submission to the undersigned at 617-951-7000. Applicants hereby petition for the required extension of time to reply to the outstanding Office Action and request that the extension fee and any other fee required for timely consideration of this submission be charged to **Deposit Account No. 18-1945**, under Order No. **WIBL-P02-541**.

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Respectfully submitted,

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